

**HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]**

**Adopted and Filed**

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 234.6, the Department of Human Services rescinds Chapter 168, “Child Care Grants Programs,” and adopts new Chapter 168, “Child Care Expansion Programs,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These rules update, clarify, and refocus policy on funding for child care programs. Funding for “wrap-around” child care will be available only to programs that provide care before and after a “core” program that serves at-risk early childhood populations. Core programs include Head Start, Shared Visions, Title I preschool, early childhood special education, and Even Start. Child care programs that show they are providing continuity of services for children in a core program, without changing the child’s location, staff support, services, schedule, and care, will be given first consideration.

The Department expects funding for wrap-around child care to be available annually since wrap-around programs are funded with discretionary funds received under the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant. When appropriated, funding will also be available to programs that expand access to child care before and after school.

These rules are consistent with the Department’s current policies for contracting. The limit on the number of children served is removed, thereby allowing contractors to serve children in more than one classroom and at more than one service site under one contract. The scoring system is replaced by weighted selection criteria that will be set forth in the request for proposals. The Department reserves the right not to contract for all available funds if there are insufficient eligible proposals.

These rules do not provide for waivers in specified situations. Requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department’s general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

Notice of Intended Action on these rules was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on April 23, 2008, as **ARC 6725B**. The Department received one comment, which was in support of the Notice of Intended Action. These amendments are identical to those published under Notice of Intended Action.

The Council on Human Services adopted these rules on June 11, 2008.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 234.6.

These rules shall become effective on September 1, 2008.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Pursuant to recommendation of the Administrative Rules Review Committee published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin, September 10, 1986, the text of these rules [Ch 168] is being omitted. These rules are identical to those published under Notice as **ARC 6725B**, IAB 4/23/08.

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